

# LONDON metro



## FAT BOTTOMED COPS: BY (DAIRY) QUEEN

IN RUSSIA THE ROTUND GET REJECTED; IN THE U.S., POLICE ARE AS PAUNCHY AS THE REST OF THE POPULATION: STUDY **PAGE 8**

## Explosions at London auto-repair shop

More than 30 firefighters battle the subsequent — and violent — blaze on Childers Street **PAGE 3**

## Fontana's fantasy: A pie in the sky?

Mayor wants gondolas above the Thames; check out where the idea's worked and where it hasn't **PAGE 5**

## Seriously, is Colorado high? Yes, in several ways

Legal pot shops dishing dope at hiiiiiiiiigh prices **PAGE 9**



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PRIZES

# Help for young moms in trouble

**Youth Opportunities Unlimited.** Agency looking to open facility that will fill gap left by Bethesda closure

DAVID INGRAM  
london@metronews.ca

There's about to be a new source of help for struggling young mothers.

A lack of affordable housing has prompted London's Youth Opportunities Unlimited to take action.

Executive director Steve Cordes said the agency will be expanding the housing help it offers to the demographic this year. Eventually, the non-profit plans to take a look at the options for opening a standalone facility for young mothers.

"When a young mom is on her own and struggling with affordable housing, and just being a good parent, it is a lot on her plate, and we want to be there to help those folks out," he said.

Cordes cited the 2012 closure of The Salvation Army's Bethesda Centre as one of the key reasons for the initiative. Bethesda, a home for teen moms and their babies, was closed because of budget concerns.

"I think when they closed

### YOUTH

- Youth Opportunities Unlimited's eighth annual Breakfast for YOU Empowering YOUTH event is scheduled for Feb. 6 at the London Convention Centre.
- Tickets are \$50 and available at you.ca until Jan. 30.

that centre there was quite a gap in services for that population," Cordes said.

The standalone facility is a ways off, Cordes said. But, in the short term, the agency will modify some existing residential space at its Cornerstone building on Richmond Street, dedicating it specifically to young mothers and their babies.

Mirella Bryant, head of the transitional services at Cornerstone, said the centre — which has 30 affordable-housing units for youths — is already housing about four young mothers.

But, she said, more can be done to accommodate them and other young families who frequent the agency's drop-in services. "We do serve young moms, we serve infants, but to specialize is a different story," Bryant said. "We know that in the last two or three years ... we have seen an influx in this demographic."



## LIGHTNING FIGHT FOR TOP SPOT

The London Lightning's Tony Bennett (5) goes up for two as the team takes on the Windsor Express in a Wednesday showdown at Caesars Windsor casino. The Lightning were fighting to remain the top-ranked team in the National Basketball League of Canada. Game. Coverage on page 17 and at metronews.ca. MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

# OLG Slots at Western Fair District

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Fallout

## Fire forces evacuation, cancels school buses

Hours after the fire began inside Actions Auto Repair, and with flames refusing to go peacefully, firefighters and police gave the order for residents in the immediate area of 30 Childers St. to evacuate.

There were fears that smoke could enter through the air intakes of homes and businesses.

Thick, black smoke billowed from the gutted building throughout the afternoon as firefighters poured water on and around the repair shop.

As darkness fell, a city bus arrived to keep displaced residents warm and the city offered shelter at Carling Heights Optimist Community Centre for those unable to go home.

Students who needed to take the bus home from Prince Charles Public School were also affected after police ordered drivers to remain in place. As a result, parents of children who ride the bus were asked to pick them up.

Traffic was disrupted on Brydges for most of the afternoon.

The evacuation order was lifted at 6 p.m. after tests proved the air was safe, even as the stubborn blaze continued.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO



Thick black smoke and explosions accompanied this Wednesday blaze at an east London auto-repair shop. SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO

# Violent fire rips through repair shop

**Childers St.** Firefighters worried about nearby buildings as flames leaped



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An auto-repair shop was the scene of explosions and a vicious Wednesday fire that took more than 30 firefighters to finally knock it down.

London fire spokesman

Rick Jefferson said the blaze — which caused \$500,000 worth of damage and forced the building to be demolished — erupted at about 11:30 a.m. as mechanics were working on a vehicle inside the garage at 30 Childers St. off Brydges.

Firefighters remained at Actions Auto Repair into the evening dousing hot spots.

“They were working on a fuel pump and some fuel leaked onto the hot engine of the vehicle, which started the fire,” Jefferson said.

A witness said he’d never seen anything like it.

“I didn’t really know what time it was, but I (saw) the smoke and I came out here to see what was happening,” said Joe Bowman, an employee at Don’s Garage across the street. “I was standing here and the flames were coming out and then I heard the gas tanks going off like a distant bang. It was weird.”

Jefferson said it was an intense blaze that saw firefighters take a defensive posture in an attempt to keep it from spreading to nearby trailers and buildings.

At least as dangerous as the

flames, Jefferson continued, was what they were burning.

“There’s a number of vehicles and obviously a lot of toxic chemicals and rubber and all of that stuff,” he said at the scene.

The Environment Ministry sent a team, as did London fire HazMat, to test the air quality around the garage because of thick smoke billowing from the scene.

No injuries were reported.

Follow Scott Taylor on Twitter @taylorinlondon



## Coming this summer. Ontario Works spot selected for northeast London

The first of the city’s decentralized Ontario Works offices is on target to open this summer at Northland Mall.

The Huron Street and Highbury Avenue location is expected to deal with a little more than 20 per cent of Londoners helped by Ontario Works.

Opening the office is part of the city’s larger plan to move welfare services out of downtown’s Market Tower, where it has offices leased

until 2017. The decentralization will establish offices in all four corners of London, plus at a new location downtown.

The city says the new spaces will mean easier access to services for clients and the opportunity for Ontario Works staff to co-ordinate their work with other services.

“We’re excited about this strategy and we are confident that people in our community will benefit,” said Sandra

Datars Bere, the city’s managing director of housing, social services and Dearness Home.

The other decentralized sites are scheduled to open over the next three years.

The southwest site will be in the expanded South London Community Centre, scheduled for 2015.

The southeast site is scheduled to open in 2016, and the northwest and core locations by spring 2017.

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

## Gammage St. Gun found at school property might have been used in crime

A loaded sawed-off double-barrel shotgun that might have been used in an attempted robbery was discovered on the property of Knollwood Public School on Wednesday.

London police were contacted at about noon after the principal of the school, located at 70 Gammage St. near Cheapside Street, found the weapon outside.

Police say it might have been used during a Saturday incident on Apeldoorn Crescent during which two young men entered a home and demanded money.

The occupant fled and no money changed hands.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at 519-661-5670 or Crime Stoppers at 800-222-8477.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO

## Halfway point. Liberals tout 4% auto insurance cut, NDP not satisfied

Auto insurance rates have dropped an average of about four per cent as part of the minority Liberals' budget deal with the NDP to reduce them by 15 per cent.

The Financial Services Commission of Ontario, the provincial government's insurance regulator, made the announcement Wednesday.

That means the Liberals are halfway to Finance Minister Charles Sousa's promise of an eight per cent rate cut by August with an eye toward fulfilling the New Democrats' 15 per cent demand next year.

Sousa has said the changes have to be phased in to allow time to tackle fraud and find other savings to make the auto insurance system more efficient.

But NDP MPP Jagmeet Singh, who spearheaded the policy that was a cornerstone of the agreement to win his party's support for Sousa's budget last spring, said "drivers are tired of waiting."

"Eight months after the budget promised a 15 per cent reduction in auto insurance, some drivers are still seeing hikes despite healthy

**Projected savings with 15%**

**\$225**

Amount average driver in Ontario would save on insurance with a 15 per cent rate cut.

industry profits," Singh said. "They're nowhere near 15 per cent, and they're nowhere near the eight per cent that they promised in one year. It's unacceptable."

Ralph Palumbo, Ontario vice-president of the Insurance Bureau of Canada, said the NDP "needs to take 'yes' for an answer."

Insurers have "done their bit and played ball," said Palumbo.

The promised 15 per cent rate cut was critical to securing NDP backing for the Liberal budget, which kept Premier Kathleen Wynne's government in power by preventing an election last year.

Ontario motorists pay the highest auto insurance premiums in Canada. One reason for that is fraud has been rampant in parts of the Greater Toronto Area.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## New digs. Tickets on sale for Women's Day event

There's a bigger venue this year for the International Women's Day breakfast and auction.

It's the 14th annual event and, having outgrown other places, it's moving to the London Convention Centre.

Tickets are already on sale for the March 7 celebra-

tion running from 7 to 9 a.m. More than 500 people are expected.

There will be a keynote speaker, a live auction, a silent auction, games, door prizes and music.

To buy tickets, call the London Abused Women's Centre at 519-432-2204. **METRO**

### Money on the mind

#### Londoners asked to help Build a Budget

Want to get into the nitty-gritty of the city budget? Here's your chance.

A Saturday event will turn the proposed 2014 spending plan inside out, upside down and, then, let residents share their own priorities with London leaders.

Dubbed the Build a Budget Workshop, it runs from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Goodwill Industries (255 Horton St. E.), ending with an open house.

The city's financial planners — the ones who spend 12 months a year waist-deep in numbers — will kick things off with overview presentations for anyone who's not totally up to speed on recent budget talks at city hall.

Then, people will be able to ask the city treasurer questions about what's being proposed and talk to people who head various departments to find out how they may be affected.

The event is one of several at which the city is planning to take feedback before the budget is passed by city council on Feb. 27. **METRO**



Hospital manager Laurie Ristmae gets up close and personal with Cedric, who lives at the East Village Animal Hospital. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

# Animal hospital almost ready to help

**Low incomes.** London's pet owners can tap into new service



MIKE DONACHIE  
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An animal hospital helping the pets of some of London's poorest people is about to open.

The East Village Animal Hospital won't be run at a profit. Instead, its seven staff

and 70 volunteers want to keep the pets of low-income citizens as healthy as they can.

A big part of their service will be low-priced spaying and neutering services, to help beat the population explosion among dogs and cats.

Staff at the new animal hospital, which is at 1777 Dundas St., will use an application process with questions about income to make sure customers are truly in need.

"These are people who can't afford to take their animal to the vet," said hospital manager Laurie Ristmae. "But

they love their pet. They want them to be healthy."

The hospital will officially open with a Jan. 26 celebration, but staff have been working to establish links with community partners including homeless shelters and those that offer mental-health services.

Those partners are referring people to the hospital for help.

It has a clinic able to handle a high volume of spaying and neutering, plus a vet able to provide checkups and other care.

### City services

The city's just awarded its contract for animal services to a private company, but there's a shift in policy.

- There's a new focus on animal welfare instead of just animal control, and a big part of that is spaying and neutering.
- The aim is for the spaying and neutering of animals to increase.

## Next step to be determined for Glen Cairn Park

The improvements planned for Glen Cairn Park will be discussed at a community meeting and open house Tuesday.

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority has advertised the meeting, which starts at 6 p.m. at the London Youth For Christ Cen-

tre (254 Adelaide St. S.).

It will have details of the plans for the northern and eastern parts of the park, which was once a landfill site.

It's all part of plans to breathe new life into the important neighbourhood resource, which is east of

Adelaide Street and north of Thompson Road.

Residents are being asked to bring their ideas for the park and share their knowledge of it, especially if they have environmental concerns.

A meeting in October already saw people give some

input along with planting trees and shrubs on part of the park.

Tuesday's meeting is expected to continue, with presentations and discussions, until 9 p.m.

Visit [surveymonkey.com/s/GlenCairnPark](http://surveymonkey.com/s/GlenCairnPark) to give online feedback. **MIKE DONACHIE/METRO**



# Gondola phenomena

Mayor Joe Fontana wants gondolas to carry Londoners and tourists along the Thames River from the Forks to SoHo. It might be pie in the sky, but in other places it really has worked. Here's a look at some high successes

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO  
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## Whistler, B.C.

At 4.4 kilometres, the Peak 2 Peak gondola system is the world's longest free span to be strung between towers.

It was built in 2007-08 at a cost of \$51 million, ahead of the 2010 winter Olympics.

Its 28 cabins can each carry 28 people and, for the bravest, two of the cabins have glass floors giving spectacular views of the ski fields below.

The 11-minute journey between peaks costs \$48.85 for an adult.

In 2010, 12 people were injured after one of the towers collapsed.

## Banff, Alta.

Canada's first gondola system was built in Banff in 1958-59. It was also the first bi-cable system in North America.

It takes passengers on an eight-minute climb up Sulphur Mountain, travelling about 1,500 metres and climbing by 700 metres.

The old system was upgraded in 1997-98 and still pulls in the tourists, taking people to a restaurant and hiking trails high up in the mountains.

Its 40 gondolas each carry four passengers, with a full capacity of 650 people an hour.

The trip costs \$35.95 per adult.

## London, England

There's already a gondola system strung across the Thames, except it's that other London and that other Thames.

The Emirates Air Line opened in June 2012, in time for the Olympics, and in its first seven months carried 1.8 million people.

It crosses the river from Greenwich to the Royal Docks and can carry 2,500 people per hour.

But the \$107-million (CAD) system is almost exclusively used by tourists.

A study found that, of its 31,600 average daily journeys, just four involved commuters.

Yes, four.

It's currently taking about 10 per cent of the passengers it can hold, despite a fare of just \$7.70.

## The world's greatest

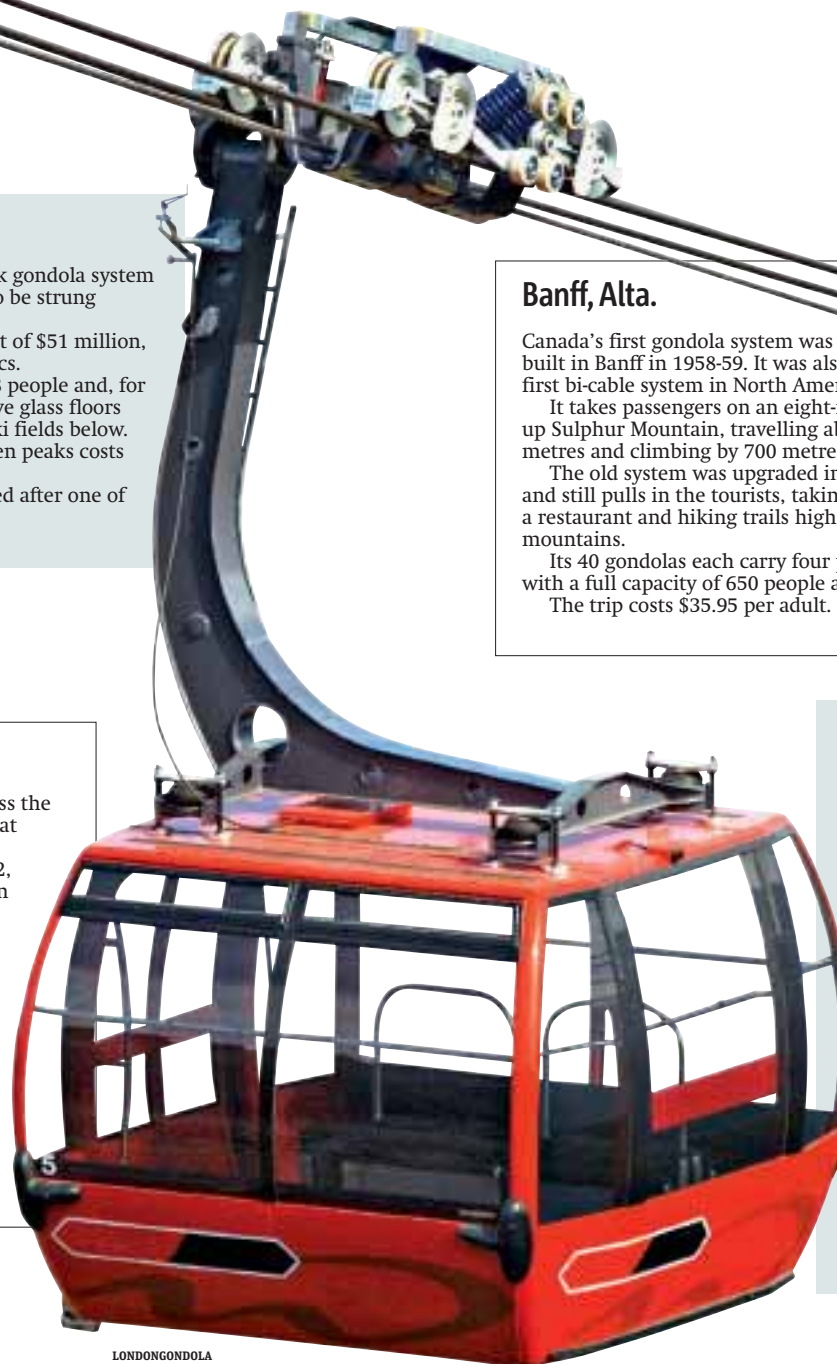
Although it remains to be seen whether the idea will work in London, or even if city staff confirm if a cable-car system can be built, gondolas are major attractions across the world.

National Geographic named its five top gondola systems in the book *Journeys of a Lifetime*.

Top was a cable car above the streets of Zacatecas, Mexico, followed by the trip up to Sugarloaf Mountain above Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Third was the highest and longest cable-car journey in the world, the Merida, Venezuela, system that takes in four stations on the way to the top of Pico Espejo.

Next is the Peak Tram in Hong Kong, a funicular railway at a steep gradient, then Malaysia's Genting Skyway, with the world's fastest cable cars.



LONDONGONDOLA



Twitter

Twitter lit up almost immediately after word of Mayor Joe Fontana's gondola dream hit the web.

There was laughter and criticism, but there's no denying the idea has caught people's attention.

The Twitter account

@LdnOntGondolas was launched less than hour after the news broke.

Here's a sampling of what you said:

@LdnOntGondolas: Sometimes the answer to

#ldnont's problems is dangling right in front of your nose, from a big steel cable, with carnival music.

@BetterLondon: Now THAT'S an idea.

@HolyMackerel72: "And if you'll look out the left of the gondola, you'll see the ugly cement levee that obscures Labatt Park." Oooh!!! \*snap snap\* #ldnont

@SpencerSandor:

I know that this joke is made too frequently in #LdnOnt but instead of gondolas, why not a monorail?

@K\_MAN32: Anyone know where I can get a butter churn in #LdnOnt? #gondolas #17thcentury

@Diatribenscreed: #LdnOnt mayor says gondolas will revive the cities fortunes. What is this Springfield or Disneyland?

DAVID INGRAM/FOR METRO

# Canadian who joined militants killed in Syria

## Damian Clairmont.

22-year-old Calgary man is believed to have converted to Islam and joined recognized terrorist group



JEREMY NOLAÏS

Metro in Calgary

A Calgary high school dropout has been killed by soldiers with the Free Syrian Army while fighting for a recognized terrorist group, according to a friend's online post.

Damian Clairmont, 22, born in Nova Scotia, is believed to have converted to Islam,



Damian Clairmont FACEBOOK

joined a force called Jabhat al-Nusra and departed for Syria in late 2012 to join rebel efforts to overthrow the government of President Bashar al-Assad.

"My bro ... Abu Talba al-Canadi executed by FSA!" wrote Abu Turan al-Muhaljr on Twitter, before posting a photo of Clairmont, who was known

by multiple names.

Al-Muhaljr later identified the man in the photo as Clairmont and added that he "was killed while defending himself and his brothers from the FSA onslaught in Aleppo."

But Canadian Foreign Affairs officials offered no specifics on Clairmont's fate amid inquiries made Wednesday.

"We are aware of reports that Canadians have been killed in Syria," said spokesperson Jean-Bruno Villeneuve in an emailed response. "We are following the situation closely."

An unnamed Canadian security source did confirm Clairmont's death to Torstar News Service, but did not provide specifics on the circumstances.

WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



## Police: Danish tourist gang-raped in India

A policeman stands outside the police station which is investigating the gang-rape of a Danish tourist in New Delhi, India, Wednesday. The 51-year-old tourist was allegedly raped near a popular shopping area in New Delhi after she stopped to ask for directions, police said Wednesday, the latest case to focus attention on the scourge of violence against women in India. The woman managed to reach her hotel in Paharganj area Tuesday evening and the owner called police. TSERING TOPGAL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# Investigation finds Google displaying illegal web ads

**'Google must correct this.'** Canada's Privacy commissioner is also pushing the company to make it easier for consumers to be heard

Google has been caught afoul of the law by displaying web ads linked to a person's health history, according to Canada's interim privacy commissioner Chantal Bernier.

An investigation by her office backed up a man's complaints that he was seeing so-called behavioural advertisements based on his web browsing history. After searching for information about devices to treat sleep apnea, he began to see ads for those de-

vices as he browsed the web.

While behavioural advertising is not illegal, Canada's privacy law does not allow consumers to be targeted based on "sensitive personal information," including their health.

Google's privacy policy outlaws displaying advertisements based on race, religion, sexual orientation or health. But the Mountain View, Calif.-based company acknowledged that some advertisers using its ad-serving platform were not following the policy.

Google has pledged to upgrade the system that reviews ads for compliance, increase the monitoring of ads and provide more information to advertisers and staff about the rules.

"The monitoring system was not tight enough, not ro-

bust enough to ensure compliance; it wasn't extensive enough to deal with the volume of ads," said Bernier in an interview.

"What this brings to light is the complexity of ensuring compliance in relation to on-line behavioural advertising and therefore the compliance mechanisms, the monitoring, the training of staff, the frequency of reviews has to be really brought up."

The company, which declined an interview request, said it will implement the changes by June.

"We've worked closely with the office of the privacy commissioner throughout this process and are pleased to be resolving this issue," said a Google Canada spokeswoman in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Abortion clinic protest rules up for debate

Alan Hoyle, of Lincolnton, N.C., stands outside the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday. The court heard arguments on the regulation of protests at abortion clinics and seemed likely Wednesday to strike down a Massachusetts law setting a 10-metre protest-free zone outside clinics.

EVAN VUCCI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Your country needs you ... to lose some weight

**Best and brightest, but not always lightest.**

Police units and armies struggle to find recruits who are fighting fit



**ELISABETH BRAW**

Metro World News in London, U.K.

Recently Mike Harper ran into the wife of a police officer friend on a Dallas street.

"She told me she was worried about his safety because his colleagues are overweight," he recalls.

The wife had good reason to be concerned. Even though American police officers should be fitter than average, a comprehensive study reports that they're less fit than half of the population.

"They have to be able to crawl and run," notes Harper, a fitness educator in charge of police and military programs at the Cooper Institute in Dallas.

"These are not tasks that you do every day, but it's critical that you're able to do them. It's like using a firearm. You don't need it every day, but when you do need it, it's essential that you know how."

And police officers are not the only ones with a weight problem. According to Lt.-Gen. Mark Hertling, no less than 75 per cent of civilians wanting to join the U.S. Army are ineligible due to being overweight.

And "of the 25 per cent that could join, what we found was 65 per cent could

not pass the (physical training) test on the first day," he said in a speech.

"Young people joining our service could not run, jump, tumble or roll. These are the kind of things you would expect soldiers to do if you're in combat."

According to the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics, between 1959 and 2008 the percentage of men who were ineligible for military service because of their weight doubled, while the percentage of ineligible women tripled.

Even though Hollywood portrays army physical training as extremely gruelling, the fitness test for new soldiers is surprisingly low.

"Fifty push-ups, 40 sit-ups and a 1.5-mile run in less than 10 minutes," notes Stew Smith, a former Navy SEAL who now runs a fitness company for soldiers and officers.

Now armed forces and law-enforcement agencies are getting serious about fitness, enlisting companies like Smith's and the Cooper Institute to train their staff. Some, like the British Army, have even developed apps to help applicants get fit. In fact, many former elite soldiers have discovered a business niche in fitness companies.

However, fitness apps won't really make a difference, observes Smith.

"The police and military do their best with what society brings them, but this is a society-wide problem. A financially struggling population will keep eating crappy, inexpensive food."



**Fat chance:** While experts contend that police officers should be in prime physical state, in truth they have the same weight problem as the rest of the population. GETTY IMAGES



**Stew squat:** Former Navy SEAL turned fitness instructor Stew Smith puts police officers through a squatting exercise. COURTESY STEW SMITH

## Russia

### Rotund get rejected

In recent years, Russia's much-maligned police force has been trying to revamp its image, including tackling obesity among officers.

"The fat and paunchy will

not get through," former interior minister Rashid Nurgaliyev said in 2011.

The force was literally slimmed down by 20 per cent. Police are now obliged to pass physical tests, with top performers getting a bonus salary. **EVGENIY MORUZ/METRO WORLD NEWS IN MOSCOW**

## Canadian Forces work with what they've got

It's hard enough to attract recruits to the Canadian military or police forces without worrying about fitness.

An internal Defence Department audit released last year noted that "fitness and education levels of recruits in the last five years have been slightly lower than in the past," when compounded with other factors such as mobility, changing career expectations and an aging workforce.

Recent reports show that American police and armed forces are struggling to find new recruits who satisfy the weight restriction.

It's slowly becoming the case in Canada too. The Canadian Forces have been adapting their application process to accommodate its changing applicant pool.

In 2006, the military eliminated the Canadian Forces Applicant Physical Fitness Test as a pre-enrolment

## True calibre

**"I think the challenge is not necessarily recruiting the numbers. I think the challenge is recruiting the quality of individual that the Canadian Armed Forces is looking for."**

Christian Leuprecht, Royal Military College and Queen's University professor

screening process, with some exceptions.

Instead of a physical test right off the bat, the evaluation is done once they've been

admitted to basic training. The three per cent that fail are not disqualified — rather, they are given the option to join the 90-day Warrior Fit-

ness Training Program.

Recruits who get in shape within the 90 days are returned to basic training.

But the changes don't necessarily mean the Canadian Forces are lowering their standards to bring in more recruits, according to Christian Leuprecht, a Royal Military College and Queen's University professor who has spent years studying military demographics and recruitment.

"I think it's important to

realize — just like the way companies can't expect the people who wander through the front door to have all the skills that a company might need and that a company invests in training — the Armed Forces look at the potential that the candidates bring rather than necessarily candidates that already have all the physical attributes that the organization is looking for," he said.

**PHOEBE HO/FOR METRO IN TORONTO**



# Has Colorado gone to pot? High prices a total buzzkill

## Up in smoke.

While legal marijuana dispensaries bring in the green, issues have blunted enthusiasm



**KIERON MONKS**  
Metro World News

There has been a party atmosphere around Colorado's marijuana dispensaries since recreational sales became legal at the turn of the year.

"People have been queuing for four to five hours," says Ryan West, an employee at a Denver dispensary. "Everyone is so excited and proud to be in the first state to legalize, and there is so much room to grow."

West is a product of that growth, hired on Jan. 1 to cope with a boom that saw sales of more than \$5 million inside the first week. Fewer than 200 dispensaries are licensed to sell the drug for recreational use and that number is set to rise, while related industries such as "weed tourism" are also grow-

ing rapidly.

But there have been unintended consequences, with prices more than doubling in some cases to more than \$400 US an ounce (28 grams). This is far higher than the rates of illegal dealers, allowing them to compete, despite the claims of marijuana advocates that a legal industry would replace the black market.

Illegal dealers are also benefiting from police confusion over new laws that have seen an 80 per cent drop in prosecutions since 2012, including for distribution. "Law enforcement feels like they don't know which way to turn," Tom Raynes, executive director of the Colorado District Attorneys' Council, told the Denver Post.

Campaigners supporting legalization believe these issues are temporary glitches.

"There has been historic demand at a historic moment, but as the number of licenses grow the demand and price will settle," Taylor West, deputy director of the National Cannabis Industry Association, told Metro. "At that point the underground market will become obsolete."



Sam Walsh, left, a budtender, and facility manager David Martinez set up marijuana products as the 3D Denver's Discrete Dispensary prepares to open for retail sales on Jan. 1 in Denver, Colo. Legalization of recreational marijuana sales in the state went into effect at 8 a.m. on New Year's Day. THEO STROOMER/GETTY IMAGES

## Apple must refund \$32M in app purchases made by kids

Apple will refund at least \$32.5 million US to consumers to settle a federal case involving purchases that kids made without their parents' permission while playing on mobile apps, the government announced Wednesday.

The Federal Trade Commission said Apple will make full refunds for any such in-app purchases made by kids using mobile phones and other devices, and incurring charges by accident or without parents' permission.

Apple will have to change its billing practices to make it

more obvious that an actual purchase is taking place during the course of the game or app.

The commission said it had received tens of thousands of complaints about unauthorized charges.

Edith Ramirez, the agency's head, said the settlement involves mobile apps and charges racked up when kids bought



things such as virtual currency or dragon food. In some cases, Ramirez said, charges ran into the hundreds and even thousands of dollars.

One parent told the FTC that her daughter had spent \$2,600 US in Tap Pet Hotel, a game in which kids can build their own pet hotel. The game is free to download and play but involves in-app purchases where

kids buy treats and coins for their pets.

Other consumers reported unauthorized purchases by children totalling more than \$500 in the apps Dragon Story and Tiny Zoo Friends.

"You cannot charge consumers for purchases they did not authorize," Ramirez said.

The \$32.5 million US payout is a minimum. As part of the settlement, Apple must pay full refunds to consumers for kids' unauthorized purchases, so that figure could climb.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Virtual pets and gems added up

According to the Federal Trade Commission complaint, when parents entered their password while a child played a game, Apple did not make it clear that they unwittingly may be buying something in the game the child had clicked on, such as a chest of gems or treats for a virtual pet.

- Parents also were not told, the FTC said, that entering

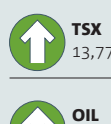
their password opened a 15-minute window in which kids could make unlimited purchases without any further action by an adult.

- Apple will have until March 31 to come up with a billing system that ensures the company obtains consumers' informed consent before billing them for in-app purchases.

### Market Minute



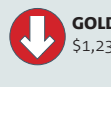
**DOLLAR**  
91.37¢  
(+ 0.03¢)



**TSX**  
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**OIL**  
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**GOLD**  
\$1,238.30 US (-\$7.10)

Natural gas: \$4.33 US (-\$0.02)  
Dow Jones: 16,481.94 (+108.08)

### Three-storey store

**Nordstrom coming to Toronto Eaton Centre in 2016**

Nordstrom Inc. says it will open a department store at the Toronto Eaton Centre by the fall of 2016, but its space will be noticeably smaller

than the previous tenants.

The announcement comes as Sears Canada prepares to exit the mall next month.

The new three-storey Nordstrom store will cover about 213,000 square feet, said Cadillac Fairview, manager of the Toronto Eaton Centre. That compares to the five storeys of the current Sears store. THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Backlash to the backlash

**Oil has been unfairly cast as a 'villain': Oil CEO**

Canadians are being misled about the oilsands by critics and celebrities making "sensational" and "unfounded" allegations,

the chief executives of two of Canada's biggest energy companies said Wednesday.

"Like a character in a Hollywood movie, oil has been cast as a villain," Cenovus Energy president and chief executive Brian Ferguson said during a panel discussion at the Canadian Club of Toronto.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# THE EH-LIST: THE BEST OF CANADA

It's time to thank everyone you know, strike up the band (mid-sentence) and put one foot in front of the other, before a smiling woman in heels points out you're walking in the wrong direction.

Yes, it's awards season. I'd have described it better, but I didn't think I'd be called upon for this honour so I didn't prepare anything.

The Golden Globes have been handed out, the Oscar nominations were announced today, and The Canadian Screen Awards are back one year after they first combined the Genies and the Geminis into the coveted Geminis.

The CSAs seemed to meet our country's high standards, which is why I was excited to have full, exclusive access to this year's show, which was pre-recorded yesterday and remains distinctly Canadian despite some faint U.S. echoes:

**Red carpet.** Oh, my. The recurring themes this year were boots and Roots! And you've never seen such an array of plaid. I



HE SAYS

**John Mazerolle**

metronews.ca

don't want to give away who everyone was wearing, but let's just say it was a very good year for French designer Jacques Cousteau.

**In memoriam.** A video montage of all the great entertainers we lost in 2013 is intercut with smug Canucks saying, "They were Canadian, y'know" at every opportunity.

**Orchestra pit.** By law, 40 per cent of the orchestra's play-off music was CanCon. Also by law, 40 per cent of that was New Orleans is Sinking.

**Lifetime achievement award.** The City of Toronto was honoured for its recurring, life-long film portrayal of Chicago.

**Big Winners.** I'm sworn to secrecy or the Trailer Park Boys will mess me up, but here are the top contenders:

**Gravity Canada:** Same as the American version, except Perfect Human and Everyastronaut Chris Hadfield plays the George Clooney role, meaning nobody dies, none of the space stations are destroyed, and he puts the satellites back together

while holding a video town hall with schoolchildren in Sarnia.

**Canadian Hustle:** One hundred and thirty eight minutes of Mike Duffy coverage, captured in the tagline, "If you thought cameras weren't allowed in the Canadian Senate, think again."

**Blue is the Coldest Colour:** Set during February in Edmonton, the movie's lesbian love scenes aren't much to look at because they happen under 27 layers of blankets.

**Her, eh?:** A lonely writer falls in love with his BlackBerry. She loses most of her self-worth and he moves on to his new girlfriend Siri after a couple of weeks.

**Conrad Black:** Protracted Constitutional to Freedom: This stirring story brought to you with funding from Conrad Black deals with one of Canada's greatest heroes as he struggles valiantly against oppression, including being thrown in jail and even stripped of his nationality. Each ticketholder is given a dictionary and thesaurus upon entrance.

That's my sneak peek, Canada! I have very little time left but I'd just like to thank —

(New Orleans is Sinking.)

Aw, nuts. Sorry.

## ZOOM

### Sending up some protection



CHUNG SUNG-JUN/GETTY IMAGES

#### Anti-NK balloons fly over border

North Korean defectors, including former soldiers, release prophylactic-shaped balloons due to fly to the North, carrying leaflets condemning North Korean leader Kim Jong-un.

Letters on the balloons at the rally near the demilitarized zone between the two Koreas read: "End the world's worst three-generation dictatorship." **METRO**

#### By the numbers

**500,000**

Anti-North Korea pamphlets.

**1,500**

USB flash drives loaded with the Korean-language version of the online encyclopedia Wikipedia.

**1,000**

United States one dollar bills and DVDs detailing human rights abuses in the North.

#### Activist's viewpoint

"There is clearly enormous hunger for outside information in North Korea. USB keys are one of the most powerful tools, because they're small, can be hidden and shared easily, and carry massive amounts of data."

Thor Halvorssen, president of the U.S.-based Human Rights Foundation.



**Sending a signal:** Around 50 tiny transistor radios were also included in the floating packages headed to North Korea.

CHUNG SUNG-JUN/GETTY IMAGES

#### Clickbait



**IRENE KUAN**  
Metro Online

Wasting time surfing the web shouldn't be a regular activity but sometimes, you just have to. Here are some sites that I guarantee: Just one click will get you hooked.

#### ChinaSMACK:

A website devoted to news about the world's most populous country is bound to be fascinating. Founded in 2008, ChinaSMACK posts stories found in Chinese media that are trending on microblogging sites like Weibo. Most of the articles have been translated from Chinese to English, so the quality of the writing isn't great, but you won't care once you start reading some of the crazy stories being talked about amongst Chinese netizens. Learn what a "human flesh search" is.

**Distractify:** One of the newer entries on the web, this site is similar to BuzzFeed, often posting entertaining, albeit useless articles. Wouldn't you like to learn about 'The 29 most infuri-



SCREENGRAB

ating things EVER?" Business Insider has called Distractify one of the fastest growing sites ever, with over 10 million Facebook shares since its launch in October.

**Upworthy:** This social media site posts viral articles that encourage debate amongst its readers. They say they will not clutter the site with "pageview-juking slideshows," but do admit the site is biased, hence "speaking the truth." It can get a little spammy with pop-up ads, since they don't make any actual money yet.

#### Twitter

Google is in trouble for ads based on health info searches. @metropicks asked: Do ads like this make you feel violated?

@RobbieRobb: If I search online for anything I expect it to be fair game for advertising.

@Russell\_Barth: google is YET to suggest any Medical Marijuana products or sites, oddly...



#### Comments

**RE:** New facial recognition app 'creepy', says kids entertainer Raffi, published online Jan. 10  
Facial recog is only getting better and will never go away. The moment we sent our single photo to the cloud, our faces became public property, worse, all your info and images on FB belong to that company, meaning that they can even sell them if they so wish  
johnnyive, posted to metronews.ca

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:**  
Send us your comments: londonletters@metronews.ca



# Ritallin requires focus

## Zone in.

Slam poet tours through the Forest City



**BACKSTAGE PASS**  
Mila Petkovic  
london@metronews.ca

Poet and arts educator Greg Frankson (a.k.a. Ritallin) is no stranger to being outspoken.

The resident poet for CBC Radio One's afternoon show Here and Now Toronto recites weekly poems that comment on news stories of interest — from fighting in hockey to Rob Ford.

"I sometimes have opinions and am not too shy about sharing them," says the artist.

Ritallin will be slamming into the Forest City at the London Music Club on Friday, armed with an arsenal of intelligent and brave poems on topics such as indigenous rights, racism, mental health and public disengagement.

He says his goal is to help people shut out noise and propaganda, and focus on issues that matter.

In addition to his work with the CBC, Ritallin is also the poet laureate for the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership, a board member of the anti-poverty initiative Put Food in the Budget and creative director of Cytopoetics — a youth-outreach organization that offers workshops at schools.

"I'm a former high school history and geography teacher so I get to go into school and get my teaching fix while inspiring kids about poetry," says Ritallin. "I think spoken word has made poetry rel-



The Toronto-based spoken-word artist Greg Frankson, a.k.a. Ritallin, is hitting up the London Poetry Slam on Friday. CONTRIBUTED

evant to a young generation other than what is taught in school. It can inspire them to find and express their own voices."

Ritallin incites people to get off of their Facebook pages and do something — whether it's writing a letter, attending a meeting or working with people on the ground floor.

"Sitting around clicking 'Like' is not enough," he says. "Change requires action and action requires energy."

Despite his critical eye and sharp tongue, Ritallin remains hopeful. "I like to tell people I'm an optimist blessed with a heavy dose of

## Quoted

**"I was a hip-hop artist before spoken word. The hip hop has always been a part of how I perform my poetry, combining it with beats and soundscapes influenced by hip hop, R&B, funk, soul and jazz."**

Ritallin, Canadian poet

reality. Things can change for the better in large and small ways," he says. "The most fulfilling and gratifying chan-

## Around town

- **Get mesmerized:** Artist Daniel Barrow will perform his mesmerizing live animation, *The Face of Everything*, to kick off the first Third Thursday of 2014. The event takes place at Museum London (421 Ridout St. N.) at 7

p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

- **Tunes:** The Mercy Now, Tandem Eagle and Poacher are playing at the Black Shire Pub (511 Talbot St.) on Friday. Doors open at 9 p.m. Cover is \$5.

ges are the ones I am able to affect on a one to one level, directly engaging with other human beings."

Ritallin is currently working on *Poet Psychology Vol. III*, a hip-hop album. His ap-

pearance at the London Poetry Slam on Friday marks the first leg of a yearlong tour.

The event takes place at the London Music Club (470 Colborne St.) at 8 p.m. Cover is \$5.

# 2 SCENE

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London CANADA





Liam Payne. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## Liam Payne apologizes for living on the ledge

One Direction member Liam Payne says he is sorry for being "stupid and irresponsible" after he was photographed standing on a building ledge 34 stories above the ground.

A photo published Wednesday in British tabloid the Sun shows the boy-band singer standing on the ledge of a high-rise with a city that appears to be London behind him.

The 20-year-old said in a

statement that "I regret being there and having a photo taken. It was a stupid and irresponsible thing to do."

He urged fans not to imitate his "extremely dangerous" behaviour.

The band emerged from Simon Cowell's British TV series The X Factor in 2010 and became one of the world's top-selling groups, with three albums topping U.S. music charts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Lohan orders police protection for party

Lindsay Lohan likes to use protection, apparently. While in London this week, the scandal-prone starlet reportedly put in a call to the Metropolitan Police to provide an escort for a 10-foot walk from her car to a venue for a friend's birthday party, according to the Mail Online. Lohan apparently felt she needed the beefed up security detail because of a clutch of paparazzi waiting and she reportedly asked the police to arrest the photographers for loitering. **METRO**



Lindsay Lohan

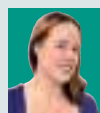
# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

### The Word



## Duff needed more marriage stuff from Comrie



THE WORD  
Dorothy Robinson  
scene@metronews.ca

It looks like Hilary Duff and her soon-to-be ex-husband, ex-NHL star Mike Comrie, tried marriage counselling for over 18 months before announcing their separation. But in the end, it wasn't enough to save their union as apparently Comrie didn't do "any of the things they'd worked on."

A source (aka: "someone from Huff's PR team") told US Weekly, "She felt he didn't put enough effort into the

relationship," they said. "He never did anything!"

One reason for the not-doing-stuff? Comrie had to retire from professional hockey in 2012 due to a constant hip injury.

A source to Life & Style echoes this sentiment. "He's in the house all day, every day," an insider tells the mag. "It was a strain on the relationship."

The couple announced two weeks ago that they "have mutually decided to an amicable separation" and will "remain best friends and will continue to be in each other's lives." The two are parents to the toddler Luca, of whom they'll have joint custody.

It certainly looks like an amicable split, with Hilary tweeting, "Mike and I are sitting here, we are so appreciative for all of your kindness & well wishes." She continued, "not an easy day but we're getting thru it together."



Gisele Bündchen

## No Superbowl stress in the Bündchen-Brady house

It may be NFL playoff time in the Tom Brady-Gisele Bündchen household, but the stress doesn't carry over at home.

"He's very focused," the 33-year-old Bündchen said of Brady, quarterback for the New England Patriots, in a recent interview. "We are both very supportive of one another in what we do. ... Of course

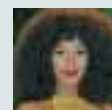
nobody likes to lose.

"Those aren't the best days. He knows he does his best. He works extremely hard."

The three-time Super Bowl champ and his New England Patriots travel to Denver to play the Broncos on Sunday for the AFC championship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Twitter



@solangeknowles

Just called my bf to report hearing noises in the house. Go to check on my son, only to find out he's been up since 2 too. HE is the "noise".



@lenadunham

Did the thing I swore I'd never do: got a public massage at an airport kiosk. It hurts not to know yourself anymore.



@AnnaKendrick47

Aren't we supposed to have meals in pill form by now? Cause at least once a week I open my fridge and think "s---, I need to make water"



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# Jump on the nautical nuptials wave

DIANE  
TIERNEY  
For Metro

Get married on a cruise and you can say your "I dos" on a gorgeous Caribbean beach, spectacular Alaskan glacier, romantic Venetian gondola — or almost anywhere in the world. Or have your nautical nuptials in the ship's charming chapel or luxurious library.

There are many options when you choose a cruise wedding, which makes for an affordable, one-stop shopping wedding-moon that your entire group will enjoy.

Princess Cruises is a leader in cruise weddings, partly inspired by the 1980s TV show *The Love Boat*, where filming took place on several Princess ships. One of its ships, the *Ruby*, is a popular choice after it was christened by Trista and Ryan Sutter of *The Bachelorette* TV show.

Captains on some cruise lines can perform your wedding ceremony, but most lines need to book an official from the port you



Trista and Ryan Sutter of *The Bachelorette* TV show christened the *Ruby Princess* in 2008, which was followed by the wedding of contest winners Kip Hickman and Danielle Vurpillat. Gavin MacLeod, right, who played Captain Stubing on the TV show *The Love Boat*, gave away the bride. CONTRIBUTED

choose. Permission is generally based on where the ship is registered and what that country's government

allows. Most Princess Cruises captains can marry you because the ships are registered in Bermuda.

A basic package starts at about \$1,800 for the ceremony and \$450 for the licence. However, the aver-

age wedding costs about \$10,000, excluding the cruise cost and airfare for each person. But the sky is the limit,

with some weddings costing tens of thousands of dollars for hundreds of guests.

For guests who can't attend, many couples use the ship's live wedding webcam to share their day with family and friends at home. The image refreshes every minute, enabling viewers to follow the proceedings as they happen.

Cruise lines are experienced with unusual requests and will do their best to make your wedding dreams come true. One couple invited Canadian Mounties, who created an arbour with their swords for the couple to walk under. Getting permission to bring the swords on the ship was a challenge, but it was approved with special conditions and made for dramatic photos. Another bride wanted a flower girl and ring boy as part of her ceremony, but since she didn't know of any, she asked if child actors could be hired or borrowed.

To arrange your nautical nuptials, visit [princess.com](http://princess.com) or call 1-800-PRINCESS (1-800-774-6237).

## Tie the knot in these hot spots

NATALIE  
LAVOY-FURTADO  
2Life

When planning a wedding away from home, there are myriad of destinations. To help you decide where to go, here are five romantic getaway ideas.

**1 Aspen, Colo.** What better way to feel all warm and fuzzy with your partner than to be on a cold getaway, cuddling by a fire. If you and your partner enjoy snowboarding then you will have the time of your life. And if not, they have snowmobiles and sleigh rides. Aspen is not just great for winter — visit in the summer to enjoy the Food and Wine Classic festival.

**2 Antigua, Caribbean.** Antigua is the sunniest island in the Caribbean, surrounded by coral walls, reefs, and shipwrecks. It is a very secluded spot for you and your partner to have some real alone time. Fun activities like sailing and scuba diving let you really take in the bright blue water and white sand combination.

**3 Venice, Italy.** This lovely destination is basically the same as it was 600 years ago, which adds to its character. With so many beautiful



Known for its canals, architecture and art work, you will have days of exploring followed by nights of fine dining in Venice. GOODLUZ/SHUTTERSTOCK

sights to see — the clock tower, Doge's Palace, and the Scuola grande di San Rocco just to name a few — you will have days of exploring followed by nights of fine dining.

**4 Punta Uva, Costa Rica.** Punta Uva is a small town on the coast of Costa Rica. There is a beautiful open garden surrounded by butterflies and other exotic species that you can view by walking around. The beach is beautiful but the scenery is what takes the cake. A popular place to stay is The Tree House Lodge, which is located within one of the tropical gardens and is a perfect place to view monkeys

swinging from trees.

**5 Paris, France.** As played as Paris is, it will always be a favourite with beautiful art galleries, the Eiffel Tower, and romantic boat cruises on the Seine River. There is so much to see, and even more to do. With wine tasting by day and walking by the world's most beautiful fountains by night, Paris will always give you that romantic feel for which you are looking.

For more information, please visit [2life.io/weddings](http://2life.io/weddings).  
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## Throw out the style rule book

Fashion magazines often try to rule our wardrobes with a vice-like, arbitrary and indiscriminating grip. No one should dare to brave horizontal stripes. Under no circumstances should any woman in her 40s wear a short skirt. But it's all rubbish really, isn't it? And at the end of the day, don't we have enough intellectual capacity to know when something works and something doesn't? We enlisted Julie Ragolia, the fashion director of Man Of The World magazine who's styled Lady Gaga, to help us throw out the fashion rule book.

**KIT GILBERT**  
Metro World News



### Ripped jeans are for teenage girls and Britney Spears only

Ripped jeans are a sign of a journeyed and well-lived life. A hole in the knee reflects a willingness to fall, always an admirable quality in a woman. Paired with a smart clutch and an elegant heel, a ripped jean can be quite chic.

### Wearing one pattern head-to-toe is a bad idea

A woman should never leave the house looking like a tablecloth. Accessories can help prevent that: a great belt, the right bag...solid, strong pieces can tie it all together and break up a pattern before it goes bad. I'm a big fan of patterns overall. Before wearing one pattern head to toe, consider mixing mismatched patterns. It's a surefire way to boldly own a look, and is surprisingly more subtle than one would think.



### Unless you are Alexa Chung, don't attempt to conquer double denim

As a devotee to Ralph Lauren and Levi's, I've been schooled to the contrary. I live for double denim. If tones and fabric weights are in balance, I say try for a triple play. I often wear chambray shirts with vintage jeans and a denim jacket. Throw an oversized Navajo knit cardigan over the shoulder to break things up now and then.

### Midi skirts require six-inch heels

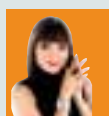
I'm a tomboy, and a busy fashion director, so super high heels are not at all practical on a day-to-day basis. A sleek Chelsea boot or a brogue can look just as sexy with a pencil skirt as any heel.



### Be wary of costume pieces

To a degree, yes, however one statement piece, such as an oversized necklace, or ski-goggle-inspired sunnies, are costume done right.

### Twitter



**JEANNE SPACE**  
Jeanne Beker  
life@metronews.ca

TWITTER HAS BECOME A COOL AND SUCCINCT WAY OF COMMUNICATING. IT ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.



Exploring the wonders of the deep at the new #RipleysAquarium Speaks to the #Pisces in me! Beautiful...



With my dear, beloved friend @BryanAdams in the throes of our shoot for @YorkdaleStyle #Yorkdale50

## Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Alexandria

Age: 22

Occupation: Graphic design student

**What she's wearing :** Jacket by Wilfred, backpack and shoes by Roots, shirt by T. Babaton, blazer/jacket by Zara, necklace by Marc by Marc Jacobs and pants by Guess.

**Her inspiration :** "My peers, blogs and my travels."



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# Smart storage for small spaces

From inside secret drawers to above the doors, there's always a forgotten space that can keep useful items out of sight



**DESIGN CENTRE**  
Karl Lohnes  
home@metronews.ca

**Q: Although my condo is not small, I seem to have a lot of stuff and not enough storage. I need some ideas for keeping my stuff off the floor and hidden away.**

**A:** Do you have a growing collection of vintage dishes or too many shoes and accessories? Perhaps it's time to purge some of your stuff instead of storing it somewhere.

But for stuff you don't want to get rid of, there are many places in our homes that are great for storing and displaying, from inside secret drawers to above the doors, there's always a forgotten space that can keep useful items out of sight.

## In the sofa

Looking for a new sofa? Choose one that offers a storage drawer under the seat cushion (similar to a trundle bed) or look for a sleeper sofa that offers storage with the mattress.

## Under the bed

Elevate your bed an additional five inches to hide luggage pieces or storage drawers. Rarely used luggage makes for perfect out-of-season clothing storage.

Add an extra shelf in your closet. Hanging a shelf one foot off the floor will instantly give you double the shoe stor-



**Billy Bookcase (with doors), medium brown, \$257, ikea.ca**



**Bed Lifts, \$13, bedbathandbeyond.ca**

age and hanging another shelf one foot below the ceiling will offer up extra storage for out-of-season dishes or specialty baking pans.

## A seat with storage

The secret to an organized room is to make the furniture look like it's there for style, not storage. A padded top allows for extra seating in the foyer, at the end of the bed or along an empty wall.

## Other ideas

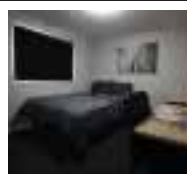
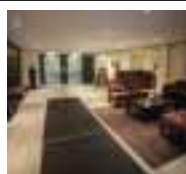
- Tea cup hooks discreetly installed behind curtains are a great way to hide hanging scarves, necklaces and hats.
- Adding a 24-inch bracket or decorative floating shelf above your door entrances will help hold small containers or books.
- Think of your china cabinet for more than just dishes. A small-scale vintage cabinet can display books behind glass doors or store shoes below.



**Lift Storage Bench, \$599, CB2.com**

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# Chestnuts and portobello: A very earthy duo

## Cookbook of the Week

### Shining the spotlight on taste



The Flavour Principle takes foodies back to the basis of food: flavour.

Indian curry spices, fiery Thai chilis, lemony citrus, smoky barbecue rubs — these are all flavours that make us passionate about food and drink.

In their book, Lucy Waverman and Beppi Crosariol examine about a dozen flavours through recipes and drink pairings.

The Flavour Principle features more than 30 gorgeous menus covering flavours from all over the world. **METRO**

The chestnuts add a rich earthiness to this dish and make the mushrooms that much more meat-like. Look for the largest, juiciest-looking portobellos for this dish. If your mushrooms are smaller, you may have extra stuffing; stir in half a beaten egg and bake in a gratin dish alongside your mushrooms.

**1.** Heat oven to 220 C (425 F). Cut off mushroom stems flush with caps and chop. You should have about 375 ml (1 1/2 cups).

**2.** In a large skillet, heat 30 ml (2 tbsp) of the olive oil over high heat. Working in batches, add mushroom caps to pan and fry for 1 to 2 minutes per side or until just beginning to soften. Transfer gill side up to a baking sheet. Repeat with remaining mushroom caps, adding more oil to pan as needed.

#### Ingredients

- 12 large portobello mushrooms
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) olive oil, divided
- Chestnut Stuffing**
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) butter
- 250 ml (1 cup) chopped onions
- 250 ml (1 cup) chopped celery
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cracked fennel seeds
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped garlic
- 575 ml (2 1/3 cups) vacuum-packed peeled roasted chestnuts

#### Wine pairing

**White Burgundy:** Try this inventively woody, earthy dish with a nutty, mineral-laden white Burgundy (such as Macon or, if budget permits, Puligny-Montrachet) and bask in the subtle decadence.

**Alternative:** If you prefer red, uncork a Chianti.

Set aside.

**3.** Melt butter in the same skillet over medium heat. Add onions, celery and fennel seeds and sauté for 10 minutes or until slightly caramelized. Add garlic, chestnuts and chopped mushroom stems and sauté for 2 minutes or until mushrooms are juicy. Remove from heat.

**4.** Stir bread crumbs and pars-

- (about 400 g/14 oz), chopped
- 1 l (4 cups) fresh bread crumbs
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) unsweetened apple juice
- Salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste
- Rich Red Wine Sauce (see below)



This recipe serves six.

ley into stuffing mixture. Add enough apple juice to moisten stuffing well. Season well with salt and pepper. Divide stuffing into 6 portions and place on top of each of the mushroom caps on the baking sheet. Top

with remaining 6 mushroom caps, gill side down, to make a kind of sandwich. Do not totally enclose the stuffing. Roast for 15 minutes or until mushrooms are tender and stuffing is crisp around the edges. Serve

drizzled with Rich Red Wine Sauce. **BOTH RECIPES: THE CANADIAN PRESS/ THE FLAVOUR PRINCIPLE BY LUCY WAVERMAN AND BEPPI CROSARIOL. PHOTOGRAPHY BY RYAN SZULC. PUBLISHED BY HARPERCOLLINS PUBLISHERS LTD, 2013.**



This recipe makes about 125 ml (1/2 cup) of sauce.

## Condiment. Rich Red Wine Sauce

Pomegranate juice gives a wonderful colour to this sauce as well as a subtle flavour. This is similar to a beurre blanc sauce but made with red wine.

**1.** In a heavy pot, combine red wine, pomegranate juice,

soy sauce and sugar. Bring to a boil over high heat, reduce heat and simmer for 10 - 20 minutes or until thickened. Remove from heat and stir in butter a few pieces at a time until fully incorporated and sauce is emulsified. Season with salt and pepper, to taste.

#### Ingredients

- 125 ml (1/2 cup) red wine
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) pomegranate juice
- 10 ml (2 tsp) light soy sauce
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) granulated sugar
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) cold unsalted butter, cut in pieces
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

#### For your phone

### Video Cookbook Pâtisserie (iPhone; free/iPad; \$1.99)

This video instruction series offers some delicious and creative pastries. But it's the free



**MIND THE APP**  
Kris Abel  
@RealKrisAbel  
life@metronews.ca

lessons on the fundamentals of fillings, icings, sauces, compotes and custards that make it a must-have.





MLB

## Kershaw lands landmark salary from Dodgers

Pitcher Clayton Kershaw agreed Wednesday to a \$215 million, seven-year contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press, a deal that makes the two-time Cy Young Award winner baseball's first player with a \$30 million average salary.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

## Manning vouched for Caldwell to Lions GM

Jim Caldwell's body of work helped him get a second opportunity to be an NFL coach.

Of course, there was that call from Peyton Manning, too.

Detroit Lions general manager Martin Mayhew says the Denver Broncos quarterback called him — unsolicited — during the team's search to throw support behind his former coach with the Indianapolis Colts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

## Broncos look to Champ to slow Pats

Champ Bailey says he's ready for an increased workload as the Denver Broncos scramble to make up for the loss of shutdown cornerback Chris Harris Jr.

Harris tore his left ACL in Denver's win over San Diego on Sunday, the latest of five defensive starters to land on IR for the Broncos (14-3), who host the New England Patriots (13-4) Sunday for the AFC title.

"I'm ready for whatever they want me to do. That's the way I prepare," said Bailey, a 15-year veteran and 12-time Pro Bowler still seeking his first trip to the Super Bowl. "I wouldn't be a surprise if that was the case." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Champ Bailey GETTY IMAGES

# Express, Lightning put on show in Windsor

**NBL Canada.** Clubs make wait well worth it during clash at Caesars Casino



DAVE LANGFORD  
dave.langford@metronews.ca

It was 38 minutes late in starting and that was a good thing for the home-town Windsor Express.

Because in a league that is often fan-challenged in many cities in the nine-team National Basketball League of Canada, the Clash at the Colosseum was an unqualified success.

More than 2,800 arrived into the Caesars Windsor theatre late — causing the delay — to watch the Express and the 401 arch-enemy London Lightning "battle" for first place.

The Express usually make their WFCU Centre home, but for one night they moved across town to play basketball. And they had to clear out quickly as Smokey Robinson was booked for the next evening.

And the Lightning, like the crowd, was late arriving on the scoreboard as they were outscored by seven in the first quarter and 14 in the second to trail by an incredible 21 points at the half.

That lead went up to 23 early in the second half before the Lightning came roaring back in the second half, making it a heck of a game between the team's top two teams. In the end, Windsor won 86-78 and leads London by a game.

Lightning general manager Taylor Brown was impressed with the presentation which included a halftime concert from Windsor band Dream Catcher.

"It's a great concept. It's good for the league," Brown said. "It's a big undertaking. It's very labour intensive with the floor and the nets. People don't realize how many pieces those floors come in. So probably multiple transport trucks."

Local observers said Windsor usually draws about 500-600 each night at the WFCU Centre, so the crowd count was a huge



The London Lightning's Garrett Williamson has the ball stripped from him by the Windsor Express's Darren Duncan on Wednesday night at Caesars Windsor. MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

upturn. It included league commissioner Paul Riley.

Meanwhile, Brown said he's not planning moving the Lightning home games anywhere in the near future — not with a home attendance averaging about 3,500.

The Lightning head east to play their next two games, first in Halifax on Saturday night and then Sunday afternoon in Saint John.

### Frederick gets FIBA approval

It took eight days, but a combination of Mexican basketball and FIBA approved the contract Wednesday for six-foot-eight Eric Frederick to join the Lightning.

- "It's unfortunate when it

takes that long because our season is so short," Lightning GM Taylor Brown said. "You bring in a guy and it's not really fair to him or the team to have (him) sitting on the sideline."



# Picking up pieces after a bad break



London native Dave Duncan takes to the air on his way to victory in a men's World Cup skicross race in San Candido, Italy, on Dec. 22. ALESSANDRO TROVATI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dave Duncan.** London native, who was injured for skicross event in Vancouver is better than ever heading into Sochi

Dave Duncan's first Olympic experience was a disaster.

It also led to a conversation that gave the Canadian the motivation and drive to make the four-year push to Sochi.

Duncan never made it to the start area for the Olympic debut of men's skicross at the 2010 Vancouver Games after crashing during a training run at Cypress Mountain. Instead of making preparations to race in front of adoring fans in his home country, Duncan was waiting for X-ray results in hospital.

His fears were later confirmed — a broken collarbone would prevent him from competing at the Games.

"It definitely was a deep place, one of the deeper moments of my life so to speak,"

## Quoted

**"It might be a little more structured but still at the essence, it's just having fun with your friends."**

Dave Duncan compares skicross to his days as a youngster when he and his friends would race to the bottom of the hill.

Duncan said in a recent interview. "It's not the way you expect your first Olympics to go."

Sensing that Duncan could use a little support, a nurse brought former Paralympian Rick Hansen into his hospital room. The Man in Motion was serving as an honorary mayor in the athletes village at the Games and had a message for Duncan.

"Basically the words were, 'What you do from this moment is going to define you,'" Duncan said.

It was then he realized his 2010 mission was in the past. Duncan became completely focused on his new goal of competing at the 2014 Games in Sochi. "Right there the decision was made," he said.

Duncan has already qualified for Sochi and appears set to peak at the right time. He's enjoying his best season on the World Cup circuit and started the new year in top spot in the overall rankings after recent back-to-back victories.

The London native had raced in several finals since joining the skicross team in 2007 but had not won a World Cup until this season. He broke through last month with a win in Innichen-San Candido, Italy and followed it up with another gold the next day.

"Maybe it's just a few more grey hairs," Duncan joked, when asked how he did it. "I'm getting older. It's just relying on past experience."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Is bigger better?

Go to [metronews.ca/gameon](http://metronews.ca/gameon) to find out how Canada's men's hockey team is planning to cope with the larger Olympic-sized ice surface in Sochi.



## Hockey

### Datsyuk named Russia's captain

Alex Ovechkin was the first Russian athlete to carry the Olympic torch, but Pavel Datsyuk will be Russia's captain in Sochi.

With the support of Ovechkin, Datsyuk was named captain of the Russian men's hockey team on Wednesday as the 35-year-old Detroit Red Wings centre prepares to participate in his fourth Olympics.

"I am honoured to be named a captain," Datsyuk said via Twitter. "Our team embraces the opportunity and responsibility of representing our country on the home ice."

Ovechkin, last year's Hart Trophy-winner as NHL MVP, is considered the face of next month's Sochi Olympics. He is the only Russian-born captain in the NHL but told reporters at Washington Capitals practice last week that he thought Datsyuk should have that role in Sochi.

"To be honest with you, that kind of type of player, he has respect on the ice and off the ice," Ovechkin said. "My opinion is who (should) be captain is Datsyuk." THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Moguls. Dufour-Lapointe and Bilodeau capture World Cup gold medals

Alex Bilodeau won the men's moguls gold medal and fellow Canadian Justine Dufour-Lapointe took the women's title Wednesday at a World Cup freestyle skiing event.

Montreal's Bilodeau, the reigning Olympic champion, took the men's title with a score of 25.72. He said he made some mistakes on his winning run and thought he might be surpassed by teammate Mikael Kingsbury. But Kingsbury almost went off the course on his final run and ended up sixth.

Americans Patrick Deneen

and Bradley Wilson finished second and third respectively.

Dufour-Lapointe, from Montreal, put together a score of 23.90 on her final run to take the women's title. She came back from a distant 15th in qualifying to overtake Americans Heidi Kloser and Hannah Kearney for gold.

It's the second-last World Cup moguls event before the Sochi Olympics. The World Cup circuit takes a break following Sunday's competition at Val Saint-Côme, Que.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Canada's Alex Bilodeau, left, and Maxime Dufour-Lapointe won gold medals in freestyle World Cup moguls events on Wednesday in Wilmington, N.Y.

MIKE GROLL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## NHL

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

#### ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Boston	46	29	15	2	132	102	60
Tampa Bay	47	28	15	4	136	113	60
Montreal	47	26	16	5	118	111	57
Toronto	48	23	20	5	132	146	51
Detroit	46	20	16	10	118	127	50
Ottawa	47	21	18	8	134	146	50
Florida	46	18	21	7	109	141	43
Buffalo	45	13	27	5	80	125	31

#### METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	47	33	12	2	152	112	68
Washington	46	22	16	8	137	137	52
Philadelphia	47	24	19	4	125	132	52
N.Y. Rangers	48	24	21	3	119	126	51
New Jersey	48	20	18	10	112	118	50
Columbus	46	22	20	4	129	131	48
Carolina	46	19	18	9	111	130	47
N.Y. Islanders	48	18	23	7	132	156	43

#### Wednesday's results

Buffalo at Toronto  
Washington at Pittsburgh  
Vancouver at Anaheim

#### Tuesday's results

Colorado 3 Chicago 2 (OT)  
Dallas 5 Edmonton 2  
Florida 4 N.Y. Islanders 2  
Nashville 4 Calgary 2  
New Jersey 4 Montreal 1  
Ottawa 3 Minnesota 0  
Philadelphia 4 Buffalo 3  
San Jose 2 Washington 1 (SO)  
St. Louis 2 Phoenix 1  
Tampa Bay 2 N.Y. Rangers 1  
Toronto 4 Boston 3

#### Thursday's games — All Times Eastern

Nashville at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.  
Detroit at NY Rangers, 7 p.m.  
San Jose at Florida, 7:30 p.m.  
NY Islanders at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.  
Montreal at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.  
Edmonton at Minnesota, 8 p.m.  
Los Angeles at St. Louis, 8 p.m.  
Boston at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.  
New Jersey at Colorado, 9 p.m.  
Winnipeg at Calgary, 9 p.m.  
Vancouver at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

#### CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	49	30	8	11	177	135	71
St. Louis	45	32	8	5	163	100	69
Colorado	46	29	12	5	135	117	63
Minnesota	49	25	19	5	118	122	55
Dallas	46	21	18	7	132	141	49
Nashville	48	20	21	7	113	143	47
Winnipeg	48	20	23	5	133	146	45

#### PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Anaheim	48	35	8	5	161	119	75
San Jose	47	29	12	6	150	117	64
Los Angeles	47	28	14	5	120	96	61
Vancouver	47	24	14	9	123	115	57
Phoenix	46	21	16	9	135	143	51
Calgary	47	16	25	6	105	148	38
Edmonton	49	15	29	5	128	174	35

Note: Two points for a win, one point for an overtime or shootout loss (OL column).

## SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Crosby, Pgh	25	42	67
Kane, Chi	23	33	56
Tavares, NYI	21	35	56
Getzlaf, Ana	23	30	53
Thornton, SJ	5	45	50
Perry, Ana	25	24	49
Sharp, Chi	25	24	49
Kunitz, Pgh	24	25	49
Backstrom, Wash	11	37	48
Ovechkin, Wash	33	14	47
Toews, Chi	17	30	47
Okposo, NYI	19	27	46
Malkin, Pgh	12	34	46
Kessel, Tor	21	24	45
Hall, Edm	18	27	45

Not including last night's games

## NFL PLAYOFFS

### CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday's games — All Times Eastern  
AFC — New England at Denver, 3 p.m.  
NFC — San Francisco at Seattle, 6:30 p.m.

### SUPER BOWL XLVII

Sunday, Feb. 2  
At East Rutherford, N.J.  
AFC vs. NFC champions, 6:30 p.m.

## NBA

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Indiana	30	7	.811	—
d-Miami	27	10	.730	3
d-Toronto	19	17	.528	10½
Atlanta	20	18	.526	10½
Washington	17	19	.472	12½
Chicago	17	19	.472	12½
Detroit	16	22	.421	14½
Charlotte	16	23	.410	15
Brooklyn	15	22	.405	15
New York	15	23	.395	15½
Cleveland	14	24	.368	16½
Boston	13	26	.333	18
Philadelphia	12	25	.324	18
Orlando	10	28	.263	20½
Milwaukee	7	30	.189	23

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	30	8	.789	—
d-Portland	28	9	.757	1½
Oklahoma City	28	10	.737	2
d-L.A. Clippers	26	13	.667	4½
Houston	25	14	.641	5½
Golden State	25	14	.641	5½
Dallas	23	16	.590	7½
Phoenix	21	16	.568	8½
Denver	19	18	.514	10½
Minnesota	18	19	.486	11½
Memphis	18	19	.486	11½
New Orleans	15	22	.405	14½
L.A. Lakers	14	24	.368	16
Sacramento	13	23	.361	16
Utah	13	26	.333	17½

#### Wednesday's results

Charlotte at Philadelphia  
Chicago at Orlando  
Miami at Washington  
Toronto at Boston  
Memphis at Milwaukee  
Utah at San Antonio  
Sacramento at Minnesota  
Houston at New Orleans  
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix  
Cleveland at Portland  
Denver at Golden State  
Dallas at L.A. Clippers

#### Tuesday's results

Charlotte 108 New York 98  
Cleveland 120 L.A. Lakers 118  
Indiana 116 Sacramento 92  
Memphis 90 Oklahoma City 87

#### Thursday's games — All Times Eastern

Brooklyn at Atlanta, 3 p.m.  
New York at Indiana, 7 p.m.  
Oklahoma City at Houston, 9:30 p.m.



## Horoscopes

### ♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

Be honest with friends today, even if what you have to tell them is not what they want to hear. Having said that, maybe what you think is bad news is good news in their opinion.

### ♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Any plans you make now are under the influence of the full moon, so try not to take them too seriously. A lot depends on whether you made them rationally or emotionally.

### ♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Your ideas are as good as anyone else's but for some reason you think you are not as smart as your rivals. They may have fewer self-doubts but where intelligence is concerned you are way out in front.

### ♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You may have a hard time controlling your emotions today but in a way that's good because, as usual, you have been keeping your feelings bottled up inside. Shout and scream if you have to.

### ♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Don't take it personally if loved ones are hard to get through to today. It seems they have a lot on their minds. If there are issues you need to discuss, wait until tomorrow when they won't be so worried by life.

### ♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Keep your ideas to yourself and stay tight-lipped even if your best friends ask what you are up to. That applies just as much on the work front. The less others know, the better for you.

### ♎ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Someone who envies your calm demeanor will turn up the heat today in the hope that you will start to sweat, but what they don't know is that you thrive on this sort of pressure.

### ♏ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Don't get upset if others don't seem interested in what you have to tell them. It's unlikely you will get much sense out of them over the next 24 hours.

### ♐ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Your words will carry more weight if you keep what you have to say to the point. Don't bother with explanations, just say what you mean and leave no one in any doubt that you mean what you say.

### ♑ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Some people may not deserve your assistance but as the moon is full in your opposite sign, you should be considerate. However, don't be so considerate that you let slip information that could help rivals get rich at your expense.

### ♒ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Today's full moon urges you to get your head out of the clouds and focus on the facts. You will have to tighten your belt financially over the next few weeks but it will only hurt if your attitude is wrong.

### ♓ Pisces

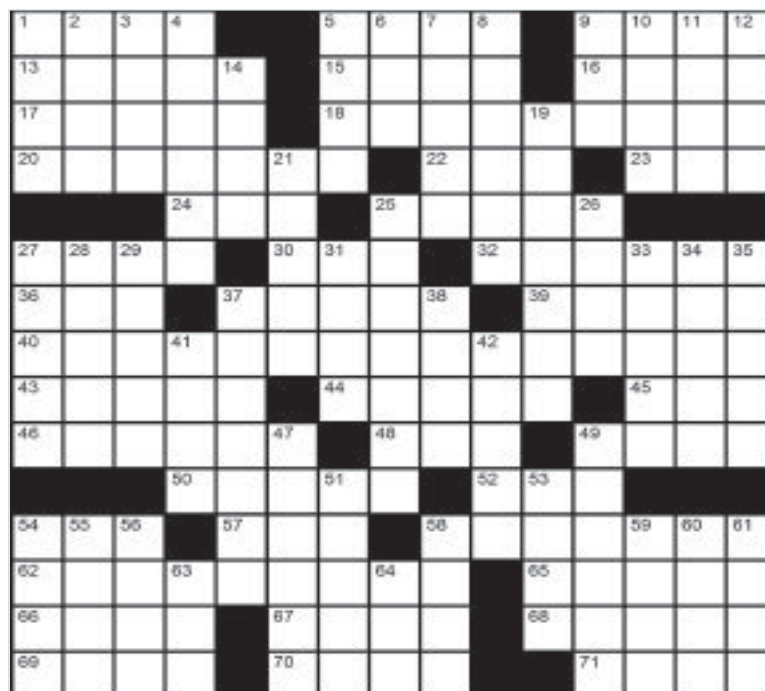
Feb. 20 - March 20

You may find it hard to stay focused today. You are advised to stop trying and let the cosmic winds blow you where they will. All roads lead to where you are destined to be. Why struggle? **SALLY BROMPTON**

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down

### Across

- Canadian singer of "Can't Choose" feat. Kardinal Offishall
- NHL officials
- Heel height unit
- Overseas moneys
- Medley
- Casanova
- Express
- Canadian talk show icon who early on piloted a helicopter as a traffic reporter: 2 wds.
- "SCTV" polka duo, The \_\_\_ Brothers
- Certain constellation
- She's opposite
- Dietary letters
- Actress Sharon
- Pairs
- Lady's love
- F's music equivalent, \_\_\_
- Bob & Doug interjections
- WWI: Canada's coming of age on the world stage
- Pointing-an-arrow person
- Route 99's other name in BC: 4 wds.
- Popeye creator, E.C. \_\_\_
- White wine of Italy
- Fuss
- Smart \_\_\_ (Wise guys)
- Which person?



- Martha of "Some Came Running" (1958)
- Writer, Madame de \_\_\_ (b.1766 - d.1817)
- Actor Stephen
- Elvis record label
- Not their
- Needle
- CBC, e.g.: 2 wds.

- People of the Arctic
- Fever symptom
- Novelist Ms. Ferber
- Canadian lingerie retailer, La \_\_\_
- Autoshop repair
- Rockefeller Center muralist
- "Begone!"

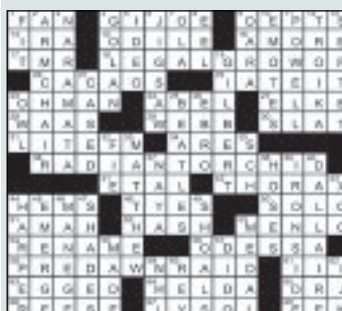
### Down

- Ms. Simpson, to pals
- Baseball's Babe
- Apothecary weight
- Diarists
- Drove
- Yalie
- Last
- Evening party
- Pique

- Chris of "Sex and the City"
- Aww-inspiring :)
- Canadian luggage brand since 1986
- Post
- The Northwest \_\_\_
- Heaves
- Englishman Archibald Belaney (b.1888 - d.1938) ...during

- his life in the Ojibwa culture in Canada: 2 wds.
- \_\_\_Tzu
  - W Network's current docu-series "\_\_\_ & Scott" about Canada's ice dancing champs
  - Tire
  - Meryl Streep/Julia Roberts movie, "August: \_\_\_ County"
  - Annoys
  - Direct selling company
  - Novelist Charles' bookish surname (b.1814 - d.1884)
  - Comic legend Richard
  - Saskatchewan city
  - Ex-ruler of Iran
  - Tie accessories
  - Soap brand
  - Food toppers
  - Metric singer Emily
  - Show wear due to wind and rain
  - Greek goddess of discord
  - Carangid fish
  - Press
  - Sentence part
  - Tiff
  - Now, to Nero
  - Pyramids place
  - Louisiana, for one, in French
  - Drenched
  - Time off, slang-style

## Yesterday's Crossword

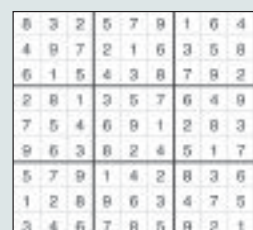


## Sudoku

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

## Yesterday's Sudoku



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